(b) if so, whether the Union Government have agreed to provide all types of facilities and financial help for setting up of this centre;

(c) if so, what is the total cost of this project;

(d) how much financial assistance the centre has agreed to provide; and

(e) what would be the main functions of this centre ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT) : (a) to (e) The Technology Development Board (TDB) in the Department of Science and Technology have agreed to provide a loan of Rs. 950 lakhs, against the estimated project cost of Rs. 2400 lakhs, to an industrial concern for establishing an organ transplantation centre in Hyderabad. The promoters and the NRI associates of the industrial concern have agreed to provide Rs. 800 lakhs by way of promoters' contribution. The balance funds required for creating the centre are provided by the financial institution and bank. The main functions of the centre would be to develop transplantation facilities for liver, kidney, pancreas, bone marrow and allied specialities.

Biotech Parks in Ludhiana

2106. SHRI LAJPAT RAI : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether world-class biotech parks are being planned in different cities;

(b) whether Government propose to have such high-tech parks in Ludhiana, keeping in view the industrial growth of the city; and

(c) if so, by when the work is likely to be started and the amount earmarked for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT) : (a) to (c) Yes Sir, several State Governments are planning biotech parks in different cities. There is no plan as of now to establish such park in Ludhiana.

Poly-Herbal Formulation for Asthmatic Patients

2107. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Institute of Chemical Biology, a laboratory under the control of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, has developed a poly-herbal formulation for asthmatic patients;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the new medicine has been given a clinical trial and if so, with what results; and

(d) what steps are proposed to be taken to permit sale of the medicine on a commercial scale, in order to provide relief to millions of bronchial asthma patients in the country?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir, the poly-herbal formulation developed by Indian Institute of Chemical Biology (IICB), Kolkata, a constituent unit of CSIR, has been licensed for commercial production. The product is being sold under the trade name of 'Asmon'. IICB studies have shown that the formulation blocks both the leukotriene and lymphokine pathways which cause or contribute to bronchial asthama.

(c) The licensee for the formulation carried out trials as per Ayurvedic procedures.

(d) The formulation was licensed for commercial production in September, 2000 and the licensee is already into commercial production.

US tactics against Indian Steel Exporters

2108. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMACHANDRAIAH : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the US administration's tactics to provide protection to the US steel industry have caused trade disputes and portests by exporters;

(b) whether the Indian steel delegation to Washington told the US administration that Indian exporters would be greatly affected due to this;

(c) if so, the main points discussed with the US administration;

(d) to what extent the US administration has agreed to look into the complaints of Indian steel exporters;

(e) whether Government have also taken up this issue with the US Government; and

(f) if so, what is the reaction of the US Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJ KISHORE TRIPATHY) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) to (f) On the request of CII, a delegation led by Secretary (Steel) visited USA in July-August, 2001 to take up with US Administration issues which, *inter*